

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 99-425

July 13, 1999

MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY
Proposed Terms and Conditions for Services
For Competitive Electricity Providers

ORDER

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

On June 21, 1999, Maine Public Service Company (MPS) filed revisions to its terms and conditions establishing fees and charges for competitive electricity providers. MPS proposed that the fees and charges become effective January 1, 2000. In its cover letter, MPS stated that the proposed fees reflect its current bi-monthly billing practice. The issue, however, is under Commission review. If a decision is made to switch to monthly billing, MPS indicated that the billing services fees would be reduced.

Prior to formal filing, MPS presented draft revisions to the standard contract working group established in Docket No. 99-170.¹ Although there was no specific agreement on the terms, conditions, and charges, it was agreed that all utilities would use the same basic method to determine the charges.

On June 23, 1999, a Notice of Filing was issued, providing interested persons an opportunity to comment on the revisions. The Public Advocate filed comments on off-cycle termination, dispute resolution, telephone numbers, and incremental costs. We addressed these comments in our Order Adopting Standard Form Contracts, Docket No. 99-170 (July 12, 1999).

Upon review, we find that the proposed revisions are consistent with Chapters 301 and 322. We have recently granted MPS's request in Docket No. 98-577 to switch to monthly billing. Accordingly, we direct MPS to file replacement schedules with reduced billing service fees by July 19, 1999 to be effective, as initially proposed by MPS, on January 1, 2000. Approval of this replacement schedule is delegated to the Director of Technical Analysis.

¹ The primary purpose of this working group was to establish standard form contracts between utilities and competitive providers. However, the Commission also asked the group to discuss utility terms, conditions and charges applicable to competitive provider.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 13th day of July, 1999.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Raymond J. Robichaud
Assistant Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
 Nugent
 Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73, et seq.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.